

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Molina's Office

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MOLINA TO SERVE 500 AT FAMILY SHELTER AS PART OF COUNTY'S CESAR CHAVEZ COMMUNITY SERVICE WEEK

Also Joins Salvation Army in Launching "Project Shield & Shelter" Initiative to Mobilize Volunteers, Raise Funds and Meet Growing Need

WHAT: Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina and staff will cook and serve meal to 500 families. Molina will also join The Salvation Army in launching its "Project Shield and Shelter" Initiative to help families in need.

WHERE: Salvation Army's Bell Shelter, 5600 Rickenbacker Road, City of Bell

WHEN: **April 1, 2009 at 12 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

"During these challenging economic times, our families and communities are leaning on the County family now more than ever. And, we are pleased to continue our annual tradition of volunteering instead of taking a paid Holiday," said Molina. "I also encourage Los Angeles County residents to join us by finding ways in which to help others in need or to volunteer in their communities."

The Salvation Army reports an increase in requests for housing and food from families suffering from the economic downturn.

With unemployment in California now over 10 percent, and the state suffering under record foreclosures, it is little wonder one of the Southland's leading social service providers, The Salvation Army, is feeling the impact. Ninety-five percent of The Salvation Army's 57 service locations are experiencing more first-time requests for basic needs, such as food and housing.

The Salvation Army's Bell Shelter, is the largest homeless shelter of its kind west for 126 years in the United States. More than 35 million Americans receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year through the broad social services that range from providing food for the hungry, relief for disaster victims, assistance for the disabled, outreach to the elderly and ill, clothing and shelter to the homeless and opportunities for underprivileged children. About 83 cents of every dollar raised is used to support those services in 5,000 communities nationwide. For more information, go to www.salvationarmy-socal.org.

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